篠崎さん気をオタしかに!
DON'T BECOME AN OTAKU, SHINOZAKI!
開運招福
HIKAWA SHOU
CHAPTER 34: A WISH ONLY GOD KNOWS

MORNING OF JANUARY 1, SHINOZAKI RESIDENCE.
ONE: MT. FUJI
TWO: A HAWK
THREE: KAEDE
KAEDE!?

I'VE GOT ONE RIGHT HERE?
OH GOOD, YOU'VE GOT ONE! WAIT, WHY!?
WH...WHAT HAPPENED TO THE EGGPLANT, KAEDE?
EGGPLANT?
WH WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO WITH THAT EGGPLANT, KAEDE?
HEHEHE JEEZ, AKINA...
YOU KNOW WHAT I'M GONNA DO?
YOU—

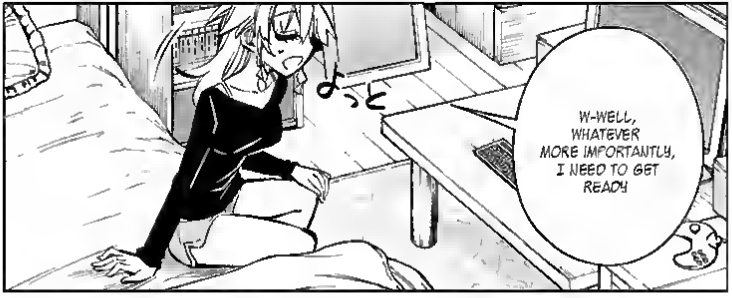
YOU CAN'T, KAEDE...!?
We're still in high school
IT'S A DREAM ?
Haa
Haa

4

Ahem
TH-THAT'S RIGHT, YOUR FIRST DREAM OF THE YEAR IS SUPPOSED TO HINT AT THINGS TO COME.
First dream...
With same sex.
WHAT KIND OF FIRST DREAM WAS...
I WANTED TO SEE MORE! ...NO, I MEAN!
AND WHAT WAS WITH, "THREE, KAEDE"!? KAEDE'S OBVIOUSLY NUMBER ONE, RIGHT!?
THAT'S NOT IT EITHER!

smile!
ぱぁ
A HINT THAT WE CAN GROW CLOSER!?
ンョボーーン
Incidentally, "first dream generally refers to the dream you have on the night between the 1st and 2nd of January.

What Does Your Fir... Mean?
IT DEFINITELY DOESN'T MEAN THAT I WANT TO HAVE THAT SORT OF RELATIONSHIP WITH KAEDE...
"Someone of the same sex appeared in my first dream
You can think of it as a hint that you can grow closer with that person
If it's someone you're already close to, what about tackling things more proactively?


ぴょこ
W-WELL, WHATEVER MORE IMPORTANTLY, I NEED TO GET READY

SKYHIGH-TOWER
BECAUSE TODAY IS...

AH!
HAPPY NEW YEAR, AKINA!
Shake!
FIRST KAEDE OF THE YEAR!!
Flash
Flash
WHOA! YOUR KIMONO IS SUPER CUTE AKINA!!
KAEDE'S SHINING EVEN BRIGHTER THAN USUAL..
DON'T TELL ME, THIS BRIGHTNESS... COULD SHE BE AMATERASU...
OH, THE SUN'S COMING UP.

ALRIGHT, WE SHOULD GET GOING
WAIT...WAIT! AKINA, DO MY HAIR~
IF WE DON'T HURRY UP, IT GONNA GET CROW—
DAMN YOU'RE FAST!
ALRIGHT, NOW CAN WE GO?
HUH? ISN'T THE SHRINE OVER THERE?
HEHEHE AKINA! THIS YEAR THE ONE WE'RE VISITING IS
EH?
EH??
7

巡
聖
EHHHHH?!
WASHINOMIYA SHRINE IN SAITAMA, THE SETTING FOR THE POPULAR ANIME "HAPPY♡SONG."
礼
地

AND, A PILGRIMAGE...?
Washinomiya shrine...
WHAT...! WHAT IS THIS PLACE!? WHAT IS "HAPPY SONG"? AN ANIME?
AH! IT'S KANATA AND SAGAMI COSPLAYERS!
Gyaaaaa!?
WOW, LOOK AKINA, LOOK! THERE'S A STONE MONUMENT —A STONE MONUMENT!
Flash
Flash
ラブ
あ
あ!?

WASHINOMIYA SHRINE IS A SHRINE IN WASHINOMIYA 1-CHOME, KUKI CITY, SAITAMA PREFECTURE. IT IS ONE OF THE OLDEST GRAND SHRINES IN THE KANTO REGION
SH-SHOULD OTAKU REALLY BE ACTING LIKE SUCH AN IMPORTANT PLACE BELONGS TO THEM
9
黒豚フランク
パリッとジューシー
BUT THEN THERE ALSO ROWS OF NORMAL STANDS BEING RUN BY NORMAL OLD GUYS
小春茶屋
EVEN THE SHRINE'S GOT ANIME STONE MONUMENTS AND IS SELLING MERCHANDISE...

murmur
murmur
murmur

THOSE TWO WENT TO SUWA GRAND SHRINE!
CUZ THAT'S THE HOLY LAND FOR HONG KONG PROJECT.
THAT'S IN NAGANO PREFECTURE!
When those two do something, they sure go all out.

KONATSU AND THE OTHERS SAID THEY'RE BE WITH SOME FRIENDS FROM SCHOOL

SO THAT MEANS WE'RE NOT GONNA SEE HIBARI AND AYU, HUH?
I'll send them an email!

AND MY GROSS BROTHER SAID HE'D BE GOING TO THE FOURTH DAY OF COMICHEST IN AKIHABARA TODAY.
What does he mean, fourth day?
MELON Book
CDDVD

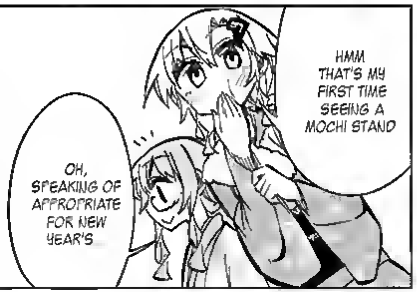
HERE, AKINA
EH? KARAAGE?
ばっくん!!
SO UNLIKE COMICHEST, THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT TODAY...

IT LOOKS DELICIOUS ～
THANKS, MICCHY
EAT UP
THE END'S A LONG WAY OFF, SO WE SHOULD SNACK FROM THE STANDS AS WE MOVE

SMILE!
ぱぁぁ
HEY, HEY! ME TOO, ME TOO!
I JUST GOT A WHOLE LOT OF NEW YEAR'S MONEY! I'M GONNA SPLURGE TODAY～
YOU ALREADY SPLURGED JUST THE OTHER DAY AT COMICHEST, DIDN'T YOU?
ENOUGH FOR 60 DOUJINS!

LET ME TREAT YOU TODAY
I STILL NEED TO MAKE UP TO YOU FOR WHAT HAPPENED AT CHRISTMAS
YOU REALLY DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT IT...

SINCE WE'RE WEARING KIMONO, MAYBE YOU SHOULDN'T CHOOSE FOOD THAT'S GONNA GET YOUR HANDS AND CLOTHES DIRTY?
HERE! SAY 'AAH', AKIRA?
WHEN IT COMES TO FOOD STANDS, YOU NEED TO GET FRIED SQUID —FRIED SQUID!


HMM. THAT'S MY FIRST TIME SEEING A MOCHI STAND
OH, SPEAKING OF APPROPRIATE FOR NEW YEAR'S

WELL THEN WHAT'S YOU'VE GOT THERE, MICCHY?
THEY WERE SELLING FRIED MOCHI IT'S APPRO-FROPRIATE FOR NEW YEAR'S, RIGHT?

AMAZAKE!!
YOU CAN'T GO WITHOUT THIS, RIGHT~
COME TO THINK OF IT, I'VE NEVER ACTUALLY HAD AMAZAKE
ME NEITHER!
THEN HOW CAN YOU SAY YOU CAN'T GO WITH-OUT IT

13

IF THIS WERE A MANGA, NORMALLY SOMEBODY WOULD GET DRUNK.
JEEZ, COME ON MICCHY
AS IF THERE COULD SUCH A CLICHED—

Woozy~
とろ～ん～
HICC!
WE HAD A CLICHÉD PERSON!

AKINA, DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS.
EHHHHH!?

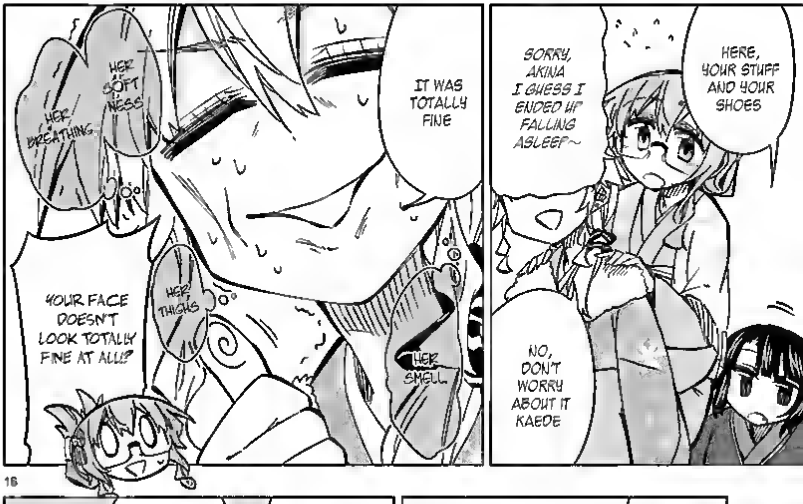
MWEHEHEH～ AMAZAKE'S DELICIOUS～
DON'T GET ALL CLINGY WITH ME!
BUT HUGGING YOU FEELS NICE, MICCHY～

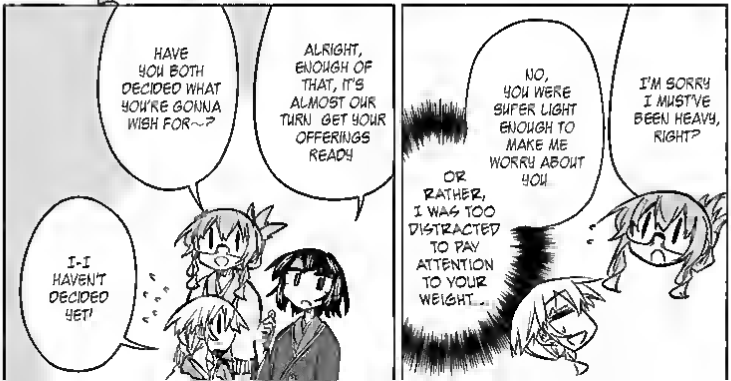
CLOSECLOSE SUPERSOFT NICESMELLING CLOSE!
MWHEHE～ IT'S AKINA～
YOU REAALLY ARE BEAUTIFUL, AREN'TCHA AKINA?

YOU'RE SO WARM, AND SO SOFT, AND SO SLENDER...
SOFTLY
!!?
IT'S MAKING ME WANT TO EAT YOU UP...
Gyaah!
M-MY DREAM THIS MORNING IS COMING TRUUUUE!!?

WHAT KIND OF PERSON GETS ANNOYINGLY DRUNK AFTER JUST ONE CUP OF AMAZAKE...?
WE CAN'T GO ANY FURTHER THAN THIS, KAEDE, WE'RE BOTH GIRLS, AND THAT DREAM WAS SUGGESTING THAT WE WERE GONNA GET CLOSER AS FRIENDS, AND WE'RE STILL JUST 16 SO WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING THAT'S RATED R-18, BUT THEN IF YOU WERE TO ASK IF I'D BE FINE WITH IT IF THE LAW SAID IT WAS OKAY THEN IF I HAVE ADMIT IT WOULD BE TOUGH FOR ME TO ...WER, BUT ANYWAY IT'S NOT LIKE THOSE ... THE FEELINGS THAT MADE ME WANT ...LOSE TO YOU, IT'S JUST THAT YOU

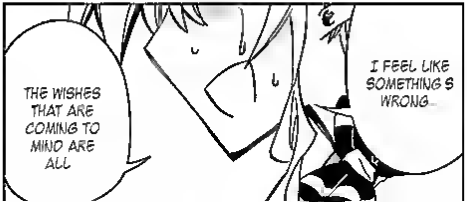
KAEDE, NEVER DRINK AMAZAKE AGAIN
WHA!? FOR SOME REASON I'M ON TOP OF AKINA'S SHOULDERS AND WE'VE GONE WAY AHEAD IN THE LINE!
MM


HER SOFTNESS
HER BREATHING
YOUR FACE DOESN'T LOOK TOTALLY FINE AT ALL!?
HER THIGHS
IT WAS TOTALLY FINE
HER SMELL
SORRY, AKINA I GUESS I ENDED UP FALLING ASLEEP~
NO, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT KAEDE
HERE, YOUR STUFF AND YOUR SHOES


I-I HAVEN'T DECIDED YET!
HAVE YOU BOTH DECIDED WHAT YOU'RE GONNA WISH FOR~?
ALRIGHT, ENOUGH OF THAT, IT'S ALMOST OUR TURN GET YOUR OFFERINGS READY
OR RATHER, I WAS TOO DISTRACTED TO PAY ATTENTION TO YOUR WEIGHT...
NO, YOU WERE SUPER LIGHT ENOUGH TO MAKE ME WORRY ABOUT YOU
I'M SORRY I MUST'VE BEEN HEAVY, RIGHT?

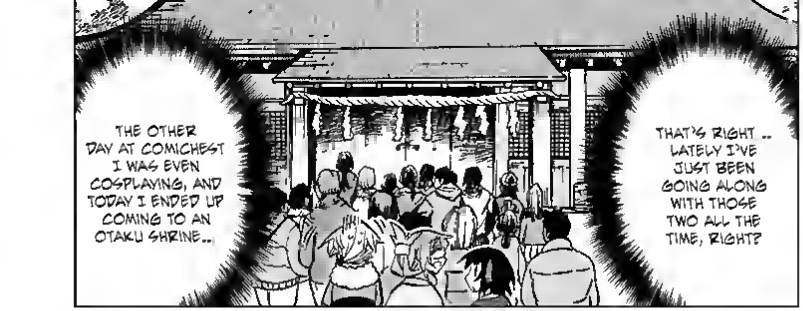
MORE PROGRESS IN MY RELATIONSHIP WITH KAEDE—
NO, NOT THAT!
A PRAYER TO THE GODS, HUH...
YOU CAN GET THOSE YOURSELF WITHOUT NEEDING TO ASK THE GODS. RIGHT?
WHAT ABOUT WISHING FOR A COMPLETE SET OF MHF ONLINE GOD-TIER ACCESSORIES?

WELL, MORE THAT, HOW ANOTHER MOVIE WITH KANADE SO THAT HER POPULARITY INCREASES...
AND THEN...
OR MAYBE GETTING MY HANDS ON SOME SIGNED PREPURE GOODS?
W... WHAT ABOUT GOD-TIER ACCESSORIES, LIKE MICCHY?


THE WISHES THAT ARE COMING TO MIND ARE ALL
I FEEL LIKE SOMETHING S WRONG...

WAIT, WHAT?

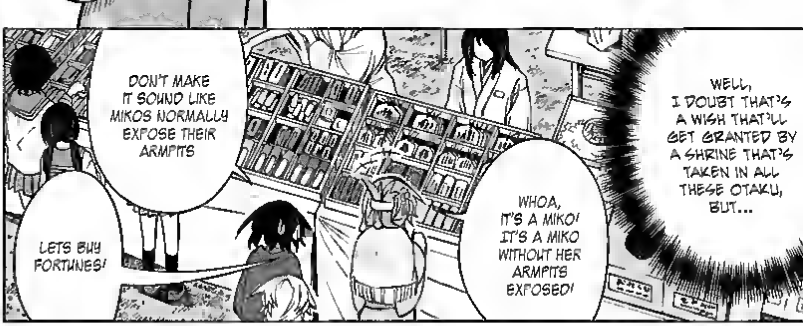
OTAKU RELATED!?
KANADE
WAIT, WHAAAAA!!?
OOH, IF I PUT A KANADE BADGE ON THAT...
I WANT TO GET SOME NEW COSMETICS, AND I ALSO WANT TO BUY THAT CUTE BAG I SAW IN A MAGAZINE THE OTHER DAY
N-NONONO, THERE'S NO WAY...
IT'S TOTALLY IMPOSSIBLE, BUT... WHEN I WASN'T PAYING ATTENTION...
C... COULD IT BE THAT I...
DID I DEVOLVE INTO AN OTAKU!?


THE OTHER DAY AT COMICHEST I WAS EVEN COSPLAYING, AND TODAY I ENDED UP COMING TO AN OTAKU SHRINE...
THAT'S RIGHT .. LATELY I'VE JUST BEEN GOING ALONG WITH THOSE TWO ALL THE TIME, RIGHT?

PLEASE TURN KAEDE AND MICCHY INTO NORMAL PEOPLE...!!
チャリーン
CLINK!
スッ...
Ha.
I'VE DECIDED... MY WISH IS...
A 500 YEN COIN!

破魔矢
お守り
縁起物
交通安全御守
御守

はー、
Haa...
FHEW, THAT WAS DANGEROUS...
BUT I WAS SOMEHOW ABLE TO MAKE MY WISH


DON'T MAKE IT SOUND LIKE MIKOS NORMALLY EXPOSE THEIR ARMPITS
LETS BUY FORTUNES!
WHOA, IT'S A MIKO! IT'S A MIKO WITHOUT HER ARMPITS EXPOSED!
WELL, I DOUBT THAT'S A WISH THAT'LL GET GRANTED BY A SHRINE THAT'S TAKEN IN ALL THESE OTAKU, BUT...

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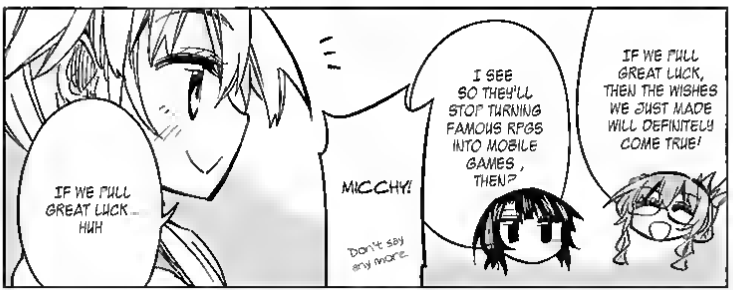
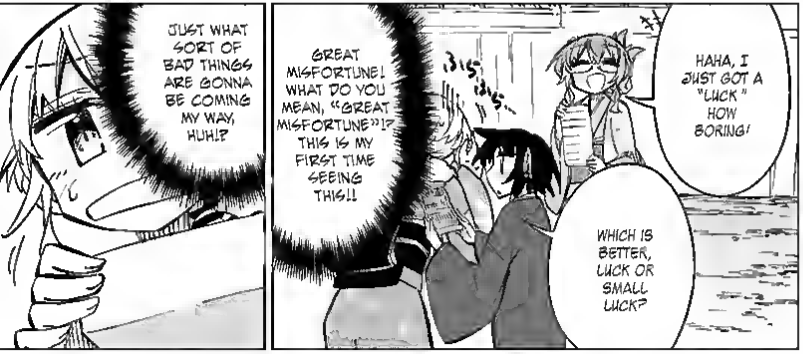

IF WE PULL GREAT LUCK... HUH
MICCHY!
Don't say any more.
I SEE SO THEY'LL STOP TURNING FAMOUS RPGS INTO MOBILE GAMES, THEN?
IF WE PULL GREAT LUCK, THEN THE WISHES WE JUST MADE WILL DEFINITELY COME TRUE!

RIGHT HERE, THERE IS NO WAY I WILL NOT DRAW A...!!
ALRIGHT, THEN JUST WATCH ME! I, WITH ENOUGH FORTUNE TO DRAW KANADE ON MY FIRST TRY...

GREAT MISFORTUNE
I KNEW IT!


JUST WHAT SORT OF BAD THINGS ARE GONNA BE COMING MY WAY, HUH!?
GREAT MISFORTUNE! WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "GREAT MISFORTUNE"!? THIS IS MY FIRST TIME SEEING THIS!!
HAHA, I JUST GOT A "LUCK" HOW BORING!
WHICH IS BETTER, LUCK OR SMALL LUCK?

STUDIES: BE SURE TO STUDY SERIOUSLY
DISEASE: SICKNESS AND HEALTH STARTS
SIGNS THAT WILL HELP YOU FIND LOST THINGS: NONE
LOVE:
TRAVEL: DANGEROUS
THE PERSON YOU ARE WAITING FOR WON'T COME
MOVING: NOT GOOD
CONFLICT: ASK YOURSELF IF IT WASN'T YOUR FAULT
KEEP YOUR RESOLVE STRONG AND WAIT FOR NEXT YEAR. (DON'T CROSS THE LINE)
NOW IS THE TIME TO TAKE A DEEP LOOK AT YOURSELF
ACHIEVING YOUR DESIRES WILL BE DIFFICULT
THIS YEAR WILL REQUIRE PERSEVERANCE

THAT'S RIGHT! THERE'S NO WAY THAT A FORTUNE LIKE THIS COULD ACTUALLY MEASURE MY LUCK—
TH... THERE MUST BE SOME SORTA MISTAKE!

Meow
Meow
Meow
SUDDENLY A LARGE NUMBER OF BLACK CATS!!

ボト ボト
PIGEON CRAP RIGHT WHERE I WAS JUST STANDING!!

THE STRAP ON MY SANDAL!!
ぶちん
Snap!

GYAAAAAAAA!

ARE YOU OKAY, AKINA~?
I FIXED THE STRAP ON YOUR SANDAL
THANK YOU

HAA
I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT AS SOON AS I TRY ASKING FOR SOMETHING FROM THE GODS, I GET THIS SERIES OF MISFORTUNES
AREN'T THE GODS HERE FAVOURING OTAKU A LITTLE TOO MUCH?

I GUESS YOU STILL GOT IT, HUH AKINA?
WHOA, YOU GOT GREAT MISFORTUNE, AKINA? THAT'S AMAZING! THAT'S SO COOL
EHH? WHAT DO YOU MEAN, IT'S COOL..?
YOU TOO, MICCHY!?

OH RIGHT, HOW WAS YOUR FORTUNE, AKINA~?
THAT'S WHAT I MEAN LOOK AT THIS

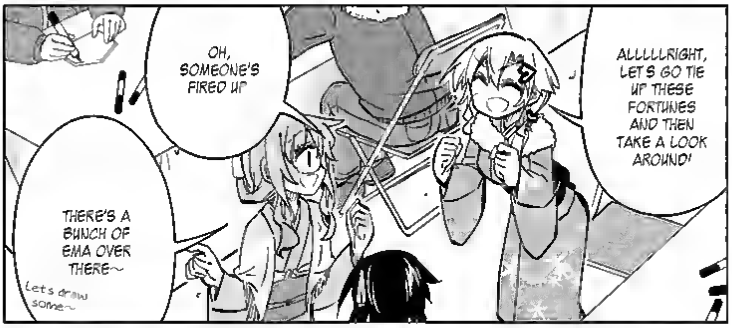
EHHH? BUT IT'S GREAT MISFORTUNE, YOU KNOW—GREAT MISFORTUNE! IT'S WAY RARER THAN GREAT LUCK!!
AND YOU CAN MINE IT FOR JOKES
AND ONE THEORY SAYS THAT IT'S ACTUALLY A GOOD OMEN BECAUSE IT MEANS YOUR LUCK WON'T GET ANY WORSE THAN THIS
B-BUT YOU SAY THAT, BUT THERE ARE ALL SORTS OF THEORIES, RIGHT?
Like that I've already used up all of my luck
YEAH, THERE ARE ALL SORTS OF THEORIES, BUT

YOU GET TO PICK WHICH THEORY YOU BELIEVE IN
SO WHAT'S WRONG WITH PICKING THE THEORY THAT MAKES YOU HAPPIEST?
EH

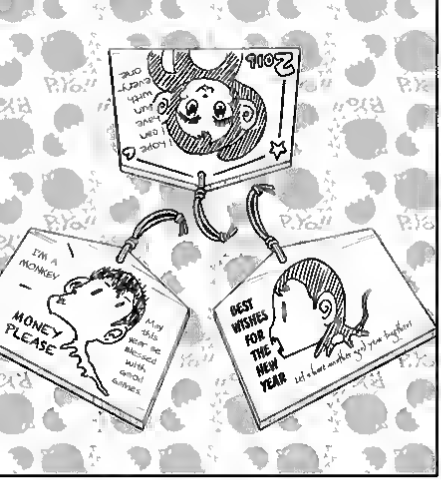
AS USUAL, KAEDE HAS AN UNLIMITED SUPPLY OF POSITIVITY.
OH YEAH, LET'S GO BUY CHARMS!
Ones to ward off evil!
I MIGHT GET ONE FOR LUCK WITH MONEY
JEEZ, YOU'RE SUCH A MATERIALIST, MICCHY!

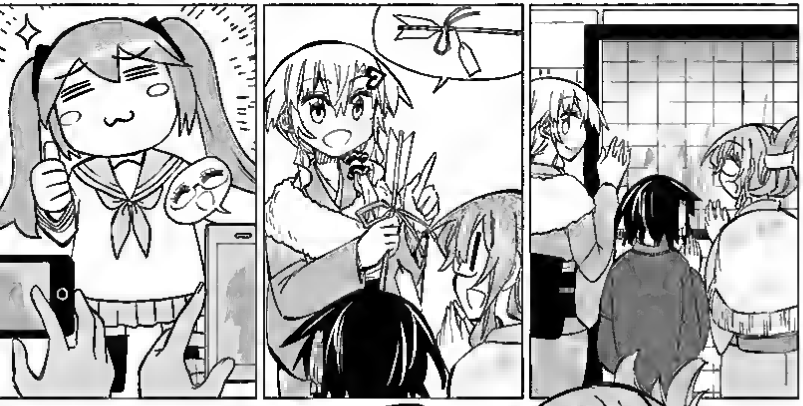
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, IF MY SANDAL STRAP HADN'T COME OFF THEN I WOULD'VE BEEN HIT BY PIGEON CRAP
BUT SHE'S RIGHT DEPENDING ON HOW I LOOK AT IT, I CAN PULL HAPPINESS OUT OF THE WORST LUCK, HUH?
25
THANKS TO CATCHING MUMPS ON THAT DAY IN SPRING...
AND IF I GO BACK EVEN FURTHER...
I WAS ABLE TO BECOME FRIENDS WITH THESE TWO.

BECAUSE DEALING WITH THEIR OTAKUNESS...
IS SOMETHING THAT I, AS THEIR FRIEND, NEED TO DO ON MY OWN
Hi...
I'M SORRY, GODS.
THAT WISH I JUST MADE WAS A DOWNRIGHT LIE.


OH, SOMEONE'S FIRED UP
ALLLLLRIGHT, LET'S GO TIE UP THESE FORTUNES AND THEN TAKE A LOOK AROUND!
THERE'S A BUNCH OF EMA OVER THERE~
Let's draw some~

世界平和


2011
I'M A MONKEY
MONEY PLEASE
BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR



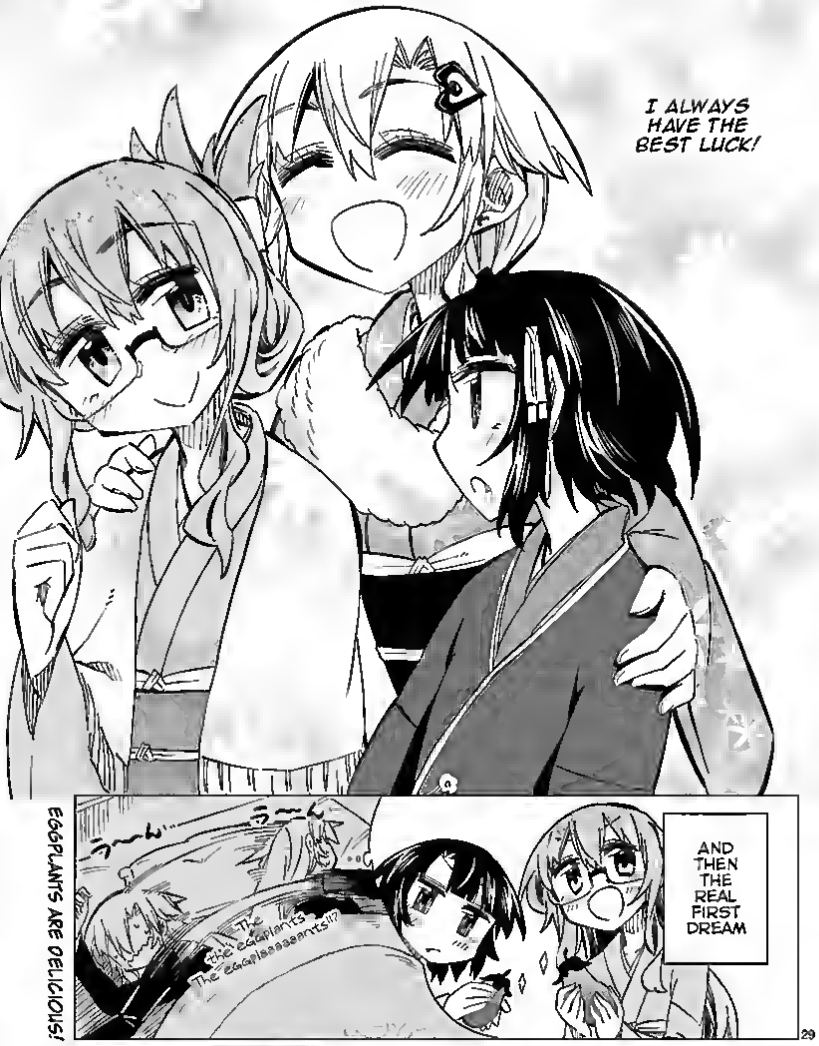
MMM! I HAD SO MUCH FUN!
ALRIGHT, THEN SHOULD WE START HEADING BACK?

THE TWO OF THEM ARE "OTAKU", A TOTALLY DIFFERENT SPECIES FROM ME
I CAN'T TURN THEM INTO ORDINARY PEOPLE

LET'S COME AGAIN NEXT YEAR!
BUT WITHOUT AMAZAKE
.....

28

BUT STILL, WHEN I ENJOY BEING WITH THEM
HUH I DIDN'T EVEN NEED DRAW A FORTUNE
BECAUSE WHEN YOU TWO ARE WITH ME



TO BE CONTINUED

SO MUCH TL NOTES ARE REQUIRED THIS TIME, I DON'T HAVE ROOM FOR IT ALL! I'LL DO THE JAPANESE CULTURE STUFF HERE, AND THE OTAKU CULTURE NOTES ON OUR WEBSITE.

JAPANESE CULTURE TL NOTES

- HATSUYUME, OR "FIRST DREAM," IS THE FIRST DREAM YOU SEE IN A NEW YEAR. THE CONTENTS OF THE DREAM ARE SUPPOSED TO FORTELL YOUR LUCK IN THE NEW YEAR. THE MOST LUCKY THINGS TO APPEAR IN YOUR DREAM ARE, IN ORDER, MOUNT FUJI, AN EAGLE, AND AN EGGPLANT. THE REASON WHY THE FIRST DREAM IS THE ONE ON THE NIGHT OF JAN 1ST IS BECAUSE ON THE NIGHT OF DEC 31ST, MANY PEOPLE STAY AWAKE ALL NIGHT.

- HATSUMODE IS THE FIRST SHRINE VISIT OF THE NEW YEAR. MANY JAPANESE VISIT A SHINTO SHRINE ON THE FIRST THREE DAYS OF THE YEAR. MAJOR SHRINES IN JAPAN CAN BE VERY POPULAR WITH VERY LONG QUEUES.

- ONCE YOU REACH THE ACTUAL SHRINE, YOU WOULD PRAY TO THE GODS BY PUTTING A COIN INTO THE OFFERING BOX, RINGING THE BELL, BOW, AND THEN CLAPPING YOUR HANDS. MOST PEOPLE ONLY GIVE OFFERINGS OF LOW VALUE COINS, LIKE 50 OR 100 YEN. AKINA PUT IN A 500 YEN COIN, THE LARGEST DENOMINATION COIN IN CIRCULATION, BECAUSE OF HOW MUCH SHE WANTED HER PRAYER TO COME TRUE.

- THE SMAL WOODEN PLAQUES AKINA AND FRIENDS DRAW ARE KNOWN AS "EMA". VISITORS WOULD WRITE THEIR PRAYERS AND WISHES ON THE PLAQUE AND HANG THEM BY THE SHRINE, WHERE THE GODS ARE BELIEVED TO READ THEM. TRADITIONALLY THEY MAY BEAR THE IMAGES OF ANIMALS OR OTHER SHINTO IMAGERY. LESS TRADITIONALLY, OTAKU HAVE STARTED LEAVING "ITA-EMA," PLAQUES WITH ANIME CHARACTERS ON THEM.

- AMAZAKE IS A DRINK MADE OF FERMENTED RICE OFTEN SERVED AT SHRINES DURING THE NEW YEAR. IT HAS VERY LOW OR NO ALCOHOL CONTENT AT ALL, SO IT'S VERY HARD TO GET DRUNK OFF OF IT.

- SHRINES ALSO SELL FORTUNES, KNOWN AS OMIKUJI. BY OFFERING A TRIBUTE, VISITORS CAN DRAW A FORTUNE AT RANDOM FROM A BOX. THE POSSIBLE RESULTS ARE, IN ORDER FROM BEST TO WORST.

GREAT LUCK 大吉
MIDDLE LUCK 中吉
SMALL LUCK 小吉
LUCK 吉
HALF LUCK 半吉
FUTURE LUCK 末吉
FUTURE SMALL LUCK 末小吉

MISFORTUNE 凶
SMALL MISFORTUNE 小凶
HALF MISFORTUNE 半凶
FUTURE MISFORTUNE 末凶
GREAT MISFORTUNE 大凶

AS YOU CAN SEE, IT CAN BE HARD TO REMEMBER WHETHER OR NOT SMALL LUCK IS BETTER THAN LUCK. IT IS ALSO VERY UNCOMMON TO DRAW GREAT MISFORTUNE, IN FACT SOME SHRINES NO LONGER EVEN INCLUDE THAT FORTUNE IN THE BOX.

COMET SCANS

TRANSLATION: Cyfer
EDITING/QC: ChiPsiUp
TYPESETTING: Nekopyon
REDRAWING: Capakowski
COVER: Potsticker

HTTP://COMETSCANS.WORDPRESS.COM/